

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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61

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05

PC-05 OMB-01 IO-10 /087 W  
----- 053211

R 232136Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9861  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGLAPA  
INFO AMCONSUL CALI  
AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

UNCLAS BOGOTA 6917

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR CO HO

SUBJ: RECALL OF COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR TO HONDURAS

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 3130

1. COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR TO HONDURAS, HERNANDO LORA MARTINEZ, WAS HASTILY RECALLED TO BOGOTA ON JULY 21. THE MOVE, ANNOUNCED IN A TERSE MESSAGE FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, WAS APPARENTLY IN PROTEST AGAINST THE MURDER OF A COLOMBIAN PRIEST AND HIS SISTER-IN-LAW IN HONDURAS AND ALLEGED LACK OF ACTION BY THE GOH IN PURSUING THE CASE. THE COLOMBIANS AND SEVEN OTHER PERSONS WERE REPORTEDLY KILLED, AND THEIR BODIES HIDDEN IN A WELL, BY TWO IMPORTANT HONDURAN LANDLORDS AND MILITARY ACCOMPLICES. THE VICTIMS WERE REPORTED TO HAVE LED AN UPRISING OF TENANT FRAMERS IN THE AREA JUST PRIOR TO THEIR DISAPPEARANCE.

2. THE AFFAIR HAS RECEIVED EXTENSIVE PRESS COVERAGE, EXPECIALLY BY THE SENSATIONALIST TABLOIDS, AND THE INCIDENT IS COMMONLY REFERRED TO IN PRINT AS "GENOCIDE." THE CATHOLIC CHRUCH HIERARCHY CONDEMNED THE INCIDENT IN A PUBLIC DECLARATION AND AROUSED PUBLIC OPINION HAS FAVORED THE AMBASSADOR'S RECALL. THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT, UNCLASSIFIED

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HOWEVER, HAS MADE NO OFFICIAL COMMENT BEYOND ITS RECALL

ORDER.

3. IN A PRESS INTERVIEW, HONDURAN AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA, VICENTE MARHADO VALLE, VOICED SURPRISE OVER THE MINISTRY'S MOVE AND DESCRIBED THE TIMING AS "PERHAPS INPRUDENT". HE ASSURED REPORTERS THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS VIGOROUSLY INVESTIGATING THE CASE AND DISCOUNTED SPECULATION THAT RELATIONS WITH COLOMBIA WOULD BE BROKEN OVER THE AFFAIR.  
VAKY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MURDER, FOREIGN RELATIONS, AMBASSADORS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL RECALL  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BOGOTA06917  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750255-1136  
**From:** BOGOTA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 71  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 TEGUCIGALPA 3130  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MartinML  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 MAR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 MAR 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2004 by MartinML>  
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06 JUL 2006

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RECALL OF COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR TO HONDURAS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PDIP, CO, HO, (LORA MARTINEZ, HERNANDO)  
**To:** STATE TEGUCIGALPA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006